

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 366

By Beavers

A RESOLUTION to recognize Dr. Harvill C. Eaton on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this General Assembly should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their years of service; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Harvill C. Eaton is one such estimable person, who has served with distinction for eleven years as president of Cumberland University; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Eaton will be taking a much-deserved retirement later this year when the university names a new president to replace him; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Eaton is the son of Bob Eaton, now deceased, and Margaret Eaton of Donelson, and he is a first-generation high school graduate who has accomplished great success in his professional life; and

WHEREAS, he graduated from Two Rivers High School in 1966; later that year, he began his college career at Tennessee Technological University and earned a Bachelor of Science degree and a Master of Science degree in engineering science in 1970 and 1972, respectively, and in 1976, he received a Doctor of Philosophy degree in materials science from Vanderbilt University; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Eaton's academic career includes teaching stints at Louisiana State University (LSU), Tennessee Technological University, Drexel University, and Chalmers University of Technology in Gothenburg, Sweden; and

WHEREAS, his career in academic administration began in 1986, when he was appointed Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies in LSU's College of Engineering; the next year, he was promoted to Associate Vice Chancellor for Research, and, in 1990, he was named the school's Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic Development; and

WHEREAS, in 1997, he was successfully recruited by Drexel University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, for the position of Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies and later served as Provost for Drexel University; he also held the rank of full professor at the College of Engineering while at Drexel; and

WHEREAS, playing a key role in the negotiations and ultimate merger of Drexel University and MCP Hahnemann University, Dr. Eaton is credited with tremendous success in the subsequent establishment of Drexel University School of Medicine; and

WHEREAS, during his outstanding tenure at Cumberland University, Dr. Eaton has guided notable growth and expansion of many programs, most especially in the College of Nursing, and he endeavors always to develop and offer programs that meet today's rapidly changing and diversified needs; and

WHEREAS, he developed a partnership with University Medical Center that has brought that medical facility and the university closer together in terms of growing the health professions at Cumberland; and

WHEREAS, Harvill Eaton has been extremely active in the Lebanon community, giving his time and attention to the Lebanon/Wilson County Chamber of Commerce and Historic Lebanon; he is a member of the Rotary Club and is a featured speaker for many community events and local clubs; and

WHEREAS, in his times of leisure, Dr. Eaton enjoys genealogy, history, ham radio, banjo, hiking, and following the advancement of new technologies; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Eaton exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, he is deeply devoted to his wife of forty-six years, Lois Acuff; his children, Christopher Eaton and his wife, Meredith, and Mary Elizabeth Blair; his grandchildren, Caleb Eaton, Samuel Eaton, Camilla Blair, and Elizabeth Blair; and his mother; and his goal in retirement is to spend ample time with each of them; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Dr. Harvill C. Eaton has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of all fortunate enough to know, work with, and love him; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we extend to Dr. Harvill C. Eaton our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.